

Fact Sheet:

Certified Community Residential Services and Support

This Fact Sheet provides an overview of certified community residential services and supported living.

What are Certified Community Residential Services & Support?

Residential services are instructions and supports provided to eligible clients by service providers to enable clients to live in their community. These may include: (1) Supported living services; (2) Group home services; or (3) Services provided in a group training home.

What is a Certified Group Home?

A Certified Group Home is a community-based licensed residential program where the provider, who contracts with the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS), Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to provide residential services, owns or leases the facility. The homes vary in size, serving from 4 to 11 residents.

Even though the home is licensed through Residential Care Services (RCS) as either a Boarding Home or an Adult Family Home, RCS also certifies the group home through a separate process. This supports the provision of services at the levels required by the DDD contract.

Room and board expenses are included in the rate paid by DDD and the residents participate toward their cost of care. DDD contracts with these providers to provide 24-hour supervision.

What are Certified Supported Living Services?

These are residential services provided to DDD clients living in their own homes in the community, which are owned, rented, or leased by the clients or their legal representatives. DDD contracts with individuals and agencies to provide these services. Entities who offer these services are certified by RCS. Supported living offers instructions and supports which may vary from a few hours per month to 24 hours of one-on-one support per day. Clients pay for their own rent, food, and other personal expenses. DDD pays for residential services provided to clients under department contract at the contracted rate.

What is the SOLA Program?

SOLA is an acronym for State Operated Living Alternatives. A SOLA is a RCS Certified Supported Living program staffed by DDD employees. Clients live in their own homes, which are owned, rented, or leased by the clients or their legal representatives. Clients pay for their own rent, food, and other personal expenses. There are 4 SOLA programs in the state.

What are Crisis Diversion Services?

Crisis diversion services are a type of Supported Living service. DDD-authorized crisis residential services and supports are offered to clients on a temporary basis and are provided by a RCS certified Supported Living program. DDD typically offers these services to clients who show a serious decline in mental functioning that puts them at risk of psychiatric hospitalization.

What are Community Protection Intensive Supported Living Services?

Community Protection Intensive Supported Living Services refers to RCS certified Supported Living services provided to clients who meet the DDD community protection eligibility requirements. The program is intended to provide 24-hour supervision in a structured, therapeutic environment for persons with community protection issues, in order for them to live safely and successfully in the community without re-offending, while minimizing the risk to public safety.

What are Group Training Homes?

A Group Training Home is a RCS certified facility contracted by DDD to provide 24-hour supervision, full-time care, treatment and training for adults with developmental disabilities. By law, it is required to be operated on a non-profit basis by a person, association or corporation. Room and board expenses are included in the rate paid by DDD and the residents participate toward their cost of care. Also known as "Epton Act Homes", the Group Training Home model was created by legislation drafted in the early 1970's, and presently there is one Group Training Home in the state.

What are the Primary Rules and Regulations that Apply?

[Chapter 388-101 WAC](#)

Quality Assurance

RCS is responsible for certification and oversight of the residential service provider. DDD is responsible for contracting, with a focus on case management and resource maintenance/development.

Protecting Residents

All supported living staff are required by law to report suspected abuse or neglect of a resident. ADSA offers training for these mandatory reporters. Specially trained ADSA employees investigate complaints. Follow-up visits are made to ensure that regulatory violations do not continue. If a report is substantiated, DSHS may take enforcement action, ranging from sanctions on a named individual to termination of program certification.

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Certification

Certification refers to the determination by RCS that an agency or service provider has satisfactorily complied with the requirements outlined in Chapter 388-101 WAC and in the department contract. This certification allows a service provider to continue to receive referrals and provide residential instruction and support to DDD clients. Regular certification may be granted to service providers for up to two years.